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**Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and  
Related Matters in the Near and Middle East****Fifty-fourth session**

Tashkent, 23–27 September 2019

**Draft report***Rapporteur:* Tlegen Matkenov (Kazakhstan)**Addendum****Consideration of topics by working groups****Issue (a): Importance of exchange of actionable intelligence and the role of  
regional cooperation platforms in facilitating that exchange**

1. The working group on the above topic met during the 3rd and 4th meetings, held on 24 September 2019. In its consideration of the topic in question, the working group formulated the following observations:

(a) In spite of an increasing volume of exchanged information and intelligence there are still difficulties and challenges caused by a lack of trust and reluctance to share sensitive information;

(b) Platforms of the regional law enforcement coordination and cooperation centers are not used to a full capacity; often law enforcement agencies of the member states tend to use them on an ad-hoc basis and only after other options were unsuccessful;

(c) Law enforcement liaison officers and their networks are considered to be effective channels in facilitating exchange of actionable intelligence between the member States;

(d) Building confidence and mutual trust through bilateral and multilateral meetings, as well as operational meetings of the officers investigating concrete ongoing cases help to facilitate exchange of information and criminal intelligence;

(e) Cooperation and exchange of actionable intelligence at the national level between law enforcement authorities – police, customs, border protection services, specialized agencies etc. needs to be further strengthened and facilitated.

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\* Available only in Arabic, English and Russian, which are the working languages of the subsidiary body.



2. The working group drew up the following conclusions:

(a) There is a need for changing the mentality of the law enforcement personnel from “need to know” to “need to share” approach when considering the necessity of sharing sensitive information;

(b) Actionable intelligence needs to be exchanged in due time without delay to enable proper actions of the parties involved including conducting pre- and post-seizure investigations, identifying and, where needed, blocking related financial flows and other relevant measures;

(c) Regional law enforcement coordination centres need to actively promote their potential with member States and offer their platforms for coordination of complex multilateral operations as well as for operational meetings of the cases officers are involved in when investigating ongoing cases;

(d) Reliable and secure communication channels are needed to facilitate exchange of sensitive information and criminal intelligence;

(e) Initiatives promoting direct cross-border cooperation are helpful in facilitating timely exchange of criminal intelligence and coordination of cross border operations;

(f) Post seizure investigations are key elements in revealing and dismantling drug supply chains, identifying transnational organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related financial flows;

(g) Strong cooperation between the law enforcement agencies at the national level is one of the important factors in timely and reliable exchange of actionable intelligence at the regional and international level;

(h) Application of Afghanistan and Turkey for full membership in CARICC is appreciated and considered as a potential for further increase of exchange of important information on drug trafficking in the region which might lead to concrete operations.

3. The working group adopted the following recommendations:

(a) Governments are encouraged to further strengthen cooperation at national level between law enforcement bodies – police, customs, border protection services, specialized agencies etc. to ensure swift completion of internal procedures for further timely exchange of actionable intelligence;

(b) Governments should encourage their law enforcement agencies to regularly use the platform of the regional cooperation centres (such as CARICC – Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre, JPC – Joint Planning Cell, GCC-Criminal Information Centre to Combat Drugs) for the collection, analysis and exchange of criminal intelligence and coordination of multilateral operations. Governments are also encouraged to make better use of the network of the liaison officers for these purposes;

(c) Governments should undertake necessary steps to support face-to-face meetings of the law enforcement officials involved in investigation of the ongoing cases to ensure exchange of concrete information on these cases and stimulate further post seizure investigations.

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